(b) Does not arise.

(c) The RBI in its mid-term review of annual policy statement for the year 2006-07 has indicated that the overall stance of monetary policy will be to ensure a monetary and interest rate environment that supports export and investment demand in the economy so as to enable continuation of the growth momentum while ensuring price stability. As such the impact of vitiation in interest rates is likely to be nominal in different sectors of the economy.

Casual approach towards RTI applications by IT Department

1388. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that officers concerned of Directorate of Income Tax (Inv.)-I, Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi are suffering from a sense of complacency and have developed a casual approach in responding to the RTI applications filed by applicants on 15th July, 2006 with the concerned CPIO i.e. Director, Department of Revenue, New Delhi;

(b) whether the matter as a whole has been put in the cold storage after a preliminary inquiry; and

(c) if so, what are the details of investigations which have been put on records and what are the other facts which are under investigation and what is the time-schedule to put whole of the matter on records?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The RTI applications received in the Directorate of Income Tax (Investigation)-I, New Delhi are dealt within the time frame specified in Section 7(1) of the RTI Act. The Directorate had received a petition dated 15.7.2006 under the RTI Act, 2005 which was duly replied to on 14th August, 2006. Accordingly, there was no delay in responding to the petition.

(b) No, Sir. The Directorate has completed the enquiries in respect of the petition, and sent its report to the jurisdictional Assessing Officer.

(c) Not applicable, in view of reply to (b) above.